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**PARSONS FAMILY PAPERS, HAGERSTOWN, INDIANA
INCLUDING BUSINESS LETTERS OF A. W. PARSONS,
AND A CIVIL WAR LETTER OF GEORGE W. PARSONS
ABOUT ANDERSONVILLE PRISON**

[Owned in the 1960s by James P. Hartig,
199 S. Washington St., Hagerstown, IN]

Copied in the 1960s for the collection of the
Allen County Public Library by Fred J. Reynolds

Office of ROOTS & COE,

GENERAL COMMISSION MERCHANTS,

No. 250 PEARL STREET.

CINCINNATI,

May 6th 1869

W. Parsons Esq
Hagerstown Ind.

Dear Sir

are at hand as I noted.

Your favor of 3.45th is

We are very sorry that you are so unwell and unable to come down. We see that you are confident of an advance in bulk meats and we should be very willing and glad to accommodate you if your margin were satisfactory. We cannot now sell without a loan to you and we don't know when we can. Our usual rate of margin required is $\frac{1}{2}$ to $\frac{3}{4}$ the market value of the product. We have not issued $\frac{1}{4}$ margin on your bulk meats.

Please find enclosed account correct showing balance to you debit 1st inst \$14,716.¹⁰ Please remit us \$1,500.⁰⁰ and remit us additional margin and we will hold you receipt longer unless the market declines.

We quote Bulk meats quit at 11 $\frac{3}{4}$ for shoulders and 14 $\frac{1}{2}$ to 14 $\frac{3}{4}$ for sides and 17 $\frac{3}{4}$ for hatted City and dull. - New York firm at 31.⁰⁰ Please answer and let us know what you can do.

Very Respectfully
Roots & Coe
By A. C. Smith

OFFICE OF **ROOTS & COE,**

GENERAL COMMISSION MERCHANTS,

Pearl Street, bet. Central Avenue & John Sts.

CINCINNATI, August 2^d 1869

Messrs. W. Parsons & Co.
Hagerstown Ind.

Dear Sir

Please find enclosed
acct sales of your Bulk Shoulders. Proceeds \$ 5,516.59
also " " " " " Sides " " 14,071.37
also of current showing Balance to your Credit 1,424.04
for which account you are at liberty to draw at sight
We will render up sales of rejected meat as soon as
sold.

Hoping all will prove correct and satisfactory

Remains Yours Very Truly

Roots & Coe

OFFICE OF **ROOTS & COE,**

GENERAL COMMISSION MERCHANTS,

Pearl Street, bet. Central Avenue & John Sts.

CINCINNATI, Aug 12th 1869

W. Parsons Esq
Hagerstown Ind.

Dear Sir

The writer arrived home this morning and had to send you a copy of the account rendered last May showing Balance to your debit that date \$17,716.¹⁰

We have only charged one Commission on your note.

We presume your money is at fault. You will find every thing correct and satisfactory we hope.

Thanking you for your kind assistance and attention.

Remain Yours Respectfully

Roots & Coe

Office of ROOTS & COE,

GENERAL COMMISSION MERCHANTS,

No. 250 PEARL STREET.

CINCINNATI, March 17th 1869.

A W Parson, Esq.
Hagerstown, Ind.

Dear Sir

Will you please inform us, if your Shoulders & Sides are out the market and if so at what price.

Our market for Pork product, is very firm and holders are not willing to sell at present rates. Please advise us to what price you are willing to sell Sides & Shoulders.

Shoulders 12 $\frac{1}{2}$ to 12 $\frac{3}{4}$
Sides 14 $\frac{1}{2}$ to 14 $\frac{3}{4}$

Bacon is offered for the Pork today but no sellers.

The market is strong and prices tending upward.

Truly Yours

Roots & Coe

Office of ROOTS & COE,

GENERAL COMMISSION MERCHANTS,

No. 250 PEARL STREET.

CINCINNATI,

April 7th 1869

A. W. Lawrence, Esq.
Augustine Dub

Dear Sir

Our provision

market is excessively dull for all parts of the hog.

The quot. Meas. at 31.⁰⁰ to 31.⁵⁰

Said is offered freely for 18th little round city.

Pulk. Shoulders

12⁷ to 12⁷/₄. Sides 14⁰ to 14⁵⁰.

We see no immediate

prospect for improvement in prices of provisions. There is very little demand and holders are not pressing their stock.

Please give us your mind in relation to the bulk meat we are holding for you - whether you are disposed to sell now, or to hold longer.

You are undoubtedly aware that

as the weather grows warmer meats begin to lose in weight.

Please give us your mind in full.

Very Respectfully

Roots & Coe

by A. E. Smith

Office of ROOTS & COE,

GENERAL COMMISSION MERCHANTS,

No. 250 PEARL STREET.

CINCINNATI, April 15, 1869

Amos W. Parsons Esq.
Hagerstown Ind.
Dear Sir.

Your favor of 12th was duly received, and we notice your views in relation to pork products.

In the present state of the market $11\frac{3}{4}$ for shoulders and 14 for sides, top figure today, we should be under the necessity of asking you to permit us to sell, as a further margin on what we hold for your account.

From present indications, we see no appearance of an advance in price. The tendency of the market is to lower prices.

We may be in error, but cannot see anything cheering in the future for provisions.

Yours
A. W. Root
C. H. Coe

Please answer by return mail.



AGENT'S RECEIPT.



Indianapolis, Cincinnati & Lafayette Railroad.

Lebanon Station.

Nov 9 1867

Received of *A. W. Parsons*

the following articles in apparent good order, to be forwarded as consigned in the margin, at
Tariff rates, and subject to the Company's printed Rules and Regulations.

Marks, Consignment, &c.	ARTICLES.	WEIGHT.
<i>A. W. Parsons</i>	<i>Cart Hops</i>	<i>44000</i> <small>Subject to Correct'n</small>
<i>H. S. D.</i> <i>12 33</i>	<i>O. B. Casper agt</i>	

Charges Advanced,

Daily Commercial Report and Market Review.

No. 2706.

CHICAGO, MONDAY, MARCH 16, 1868.

2 O'CLOCK P. M.

Lawrence, Nexsen & Hall,
COMMISSION
MERCHANTS,
 OTIS BLOCK,
 164 Madison St., cor. LaSalle,
CHICAGO.

M. A. LAWRENCE, G. W. NEXSEN
 J. FOST. HALL, GEO. F. BUTLER.

Gold Quotations.

	OPENING	LATEST
New York.....	139 1/2	139 1/2

H. A. NEWCOMBE & CO., PRINTERS, 101 WASHINGTON ST.

Market Review.

Money matters at the banks present no change. There is a fair demand for money on mercantile account, and the discount market rules very steady. General business is very dull.

Exchange is scarce and firm at 50@60 cents premium between banks. Depositors are allowed par.

Floor—The principal demand to-day was for sugars and low grades which were scarce and firm at previous prices. Choice grades were easier and prices favored buyers. City brands mostly held firm and selling at full prices. Winter Extras dull. Rye Flour scarce and firm at \$7.75 for choice.

Wheat—Was dull and closed at a decline of 1/2c on the opening figures. No. 1 Spring in light demand from millers at \$2.05@2.06 for fresh receipts. No. 2 Spring opened quiet firm at \$1.93 1/2 and rapidly advanced to \$1.94 1/2. At the outside before the market weakened and declined to \$1.94, and later to \$1.93 1/2, and closed quiet with sellers at \$1.93 1/2 and buyers at \$1.93. No. 3 Spring nominal at \$1.84@1.85 for fresh receipts. Sales of No. 2 Spring buyer the month were made at \$1.92@1.94, ranging 1/2@2c higher than cash.

Corn—The market this morning was comparatively quiet and steady, though at a shade lower range than Saturday. Sales of New (regular) before Chicago were at 81 1/2c, the market gradually growing stronger, and opening on Chicago at 81 1/2@81 3/4; later special dispatches from New York had a discouraging effect, and the market gradually weakened, closing with buyers at 81c. For fresh receipts 1/2@2c higher fence were paid—the outside in the Central. No. 1 dull and lower with sales at 81c.

Oats—The market was quiet, and for regular nominal almost—best at 56 1/2@57c and after wards at 56 1/2@57c.

56 1/2c, closing at the last range; for fresh there was considerable irregularity, at 57 1/2@58 1/2—the inside paid on the North Side, 58 1/2@59c in favorite South Side houses.

Rye—No. 1 fresh sold at \$1.67.

Barley—More active to-day and firmer, with sales of winter receipts in the R. I. at \$2.22@2.24, and elsewhere at \$2.18@2.19. Samples active at relative rates.

Seeds—Clover and Timothy moderate active; other kinds quiet. Sale of Clover \$7.50@7.50 for good to choice; \$8.50@8.50 for mammoth; \$10.00 per bu for white. Of Timothy, \$2.00@2.10 for dirty; \$2.25@2.35 for prime to choice.

Provisions—The market generally was quiet, firm and unchanged at Saturday's prices. Mess Pork firmly held at \$3.00@3.25 for standard and straight. Lard was firmer—there were free buyers at 15@15 1/2c, but holders reticee less than 15 1/2c. There was a good inquiry for D. S. Shoulders at 10c for April, but holders were fully 1/2c higher. Sweet Pickled Hams sold to the extent of 220 lbs city at 14 1/2c, and small lot of country at 14c. Other Cut Meats quiet and entirely nominal.

Dressed Hogs—Dull; sales at \$8.50@9.00 for divisions on 200 lbs.

Sales and Quotations.

FLOUR—White Winter Extra—100 not named at \$13.25. Fed Winter Extras—100 not named at \$11.25. Spring Extra—200. Dater's Advance at \$10.00; 200 Star & Crescent at \$10.00; 100 Watonwin at \$9.75; 400 not named at \$10.00; 100 at \$10.15; 100 at \$9.25; 100 (Minn.) at \$9.75; 75 (low) at \$8.25; 50 at \$9.25; 100 at \$8.62 1/2. Spring Superfine—100 at \$7.50; 50 at \$6.75; 50 wet at \$7.25; 7 1/2 at \$8.75 on track; 100 at \$7.75. Rye Flour—100 Rockton Stone at \$7.75.

WHEAT—No. 1 Spring sales—1200 bu N.W. at \$2.06; 400 at \$2.15. No. 2—1000 at \$1.93. 5000 at \$1.93 1/2; 5000 at \$1.93 1/2; 20,000 at \$1.93 1/2; 15,000 at \$1.94; 20,000 at \$1.94 1/2; 5000 at \$1.94 1/2; 1200 bu fresh at \$1.95. 800 at \$1.95 1/2. No. 3—400 at \$1.84. Rejected—1600 bu at \$1.68. By Sample—400 bu Spring on track at \$2.06.

CORN—No. 1 sales—800 bu at 85c. New—2400 bu strictly fresh. R. I. C. at \$2.12; 4000 at \$2.12; 1200 at \$1.2c; 25,000 at \$1.2c; 10,000 at \$1.2c; 15,000 at \$1.2c.

OATS—No. 1 and 2 sales—1800 bu favorite houses at 58 1/2c; 1200 do at 58 1/2c; 600 at 58 1/2c; 10,000 at 56 1/2c; 7000 at 56 1/2c.

RYE—No. 1 sales—400 bu strictly fresh at \$1.67. By Sample—11 1/2 cks at \$1.70 on track.

BARLEY—No. 2 sales—800 bu winter at \$2.18; 500 at \$2.19; 1200 bu winter R. I. at \$2.22; 401 at \$2.21. By Sample—30 cks at \$1.70; 50 bu at \$2.30; 27 sacks at \$2.37 1/2 all dirt.

SEEDS—Clover—12 sacks at \$7.50; 20 bush and 25 bags at \$7.40; 10 bags at \$7.15; 13, 12 and 50 at \$7.50; 10 bags Mammoth at \$7.20; 11 at \$8.25; 9 bu White at \$7.50 per bu. Timothy—23 sacks at \$2; 121 at \$2.05; 17 and 71 at \$2.10; 60 and 20 at \$2.20; 44 at \$2.23; 25 at \$2.25; 30 and 40 at \$2.30; 45 choice \$2.35. Hungarian—6 bags at \$1.85. Millet—4 bags at \$1.85; 100 at 42. Osgoe Oranges—10 bush at \$2.50.

BELLIES—4000 lbs packed (S. P.) at 12 1/2c. S. P. HAMS—50 lbs country at 14c; 150 lbs city at 14 1/2c; 70 lbs do 14 1/2c.

DRESSED HOGS—58 all round, at \$8.50; 4 at \$9; 127 dividing on 200 lbs at \$8.50@9.00.

POULTRY—Turkeys—150 lbs dressed at 18c. Chickens—Market nearly bare; live the most salable.

EGGS—In good demand and firm; the outside price was paid for small pkgs; ones 360 doz at 21c; 1630 at 22c; 250 at 21c.

BUTTER—Dull and lower on all grades; the extreme prices of last week encouraged receipts, and this morning the market is well supplied, with prices tending downward; sales 10 jars choice at 42@43c; 8 pkgs at 41@42c; 7 tubs and 1000 lbs roll in lots at 40c; 500 lbs good roll at 37@37c; 500 lbs inferior at 25c; 200 lbs good roll at 37c.

DESIK FRUITS—Sales 50 bbls prime Ohio apples

on p. 1; 10 bbls Southern at 7 1/2c; 5 at 7 1/2c; 10 bbls old do at 4c; 12 bbls halves Peaches at 11c; 100 at 10 1/2c; 5 bbls mixed at 9 1/2c; 8 bbls Southern Blackberries 14 1/2c; 1 bbl Black Raspberries at 45c.

GREEN FRUITS—Apples—Quiet with light demand. Sales: 25 bbls good to choice at \$2.25; 25 bbls 10 bu-boxes at \$2 per box. Oranges and Lemons in light supply and firmer; sales of choice at \$7.67 1/2.

POTATOES—In active demand and firm. Sales: 25 bu Peachblows from store at \$1.95; 175 bu \$1.10; 200 bu del at \$1.67; 2 cars del at \$1.10; 100 bu from store at \$1.00.

VEGETABLES—No fresh receipts this morning. Parsnips and Turnips \$2 per bu. Onions \$7.50 for choice; sales of Lettuce at 30c@3 1/2 per doz bunches; Soup Bunches, the Plant and Radishes slow of sale.

HONEY—12 boxes good at 25c per D.

BROOM CORN—Active and firm on all grades; the range is from \$1.25 for poor to \$1.00 for choice. Sales: 5 tons choice at \$1.00 per ton.

HIDES—Quotations are as follows; Green 10 1/2c; Green Cured 12 1/2@12 1/2c; Green part cured, 10 1/2@11c; Green Calf 15 1/2@15c; Green Kip 16 1/2@17c; Dry Flint 21@22c; Dry Flint Kip 24@25c; Dry Flint Calf 20c. Damaged and Grubby one third off.

Live Stock Market.

HOGS—Received to 12 M. 833. The market opened dull and drooping with nearly 1200 on sale. Buyers were not disposed to pay the prices demanded by sellers, and during the morning transactions were limited to some 500 head at \$7.75@8.25 for common. A few extra Min-our hogs av 220 to 245 sold at \$9.25@9.30.

CATTLE—Received to 12 M. 17 head. The market was very quiet, owing to lack of stock. A few butchers' cattle were sold at Saturday's prices. We quote the market nominal at the following:

Extra, av. 1500@1400	\$7.75@9.00
First-class shipping steers, av. 1200@1300	7.75@8.00
Second-class steers, av. 1100@1200	7.50@7.75
Third class light and fleshy, av. 1000@1100	6.75@7.00
Rough feeble uneven steers, av. 1100@1200	5.75@6.25
Good smooth stockers, av. 900@1000	4.75@5.25
Light stockers, av. 800@900	3.75@4.00
Good fat cows, and heifers	5.25@5.50
Common cows and heifers	3.75@4.00
Stags, bulls and rough stock generally	2.50@3.00

Markets by Telegraph.

New York, March 16.—Flour firmer and demand active for shipping grades. Wheat steady, quiet. Corn dull, heavy; sales of New at \$1.25. Oats firm at 81c. Pork dull. Lard firm. New York, March 16.—Flour firmer, salable, \$2.50@2.50. Wheat easier, nominal. No. 2 Spring \$1.75@2.40. No. 1 \$2.45@2.48. Corn easier, dull. New \$1.94. Pork quiet, steady \$24.25. Lard dull, heavy. Hogs nominal. Gold 139 1/2.

LATER—Flour firm. Wheat unsettled. Corn quiet, tame. Oats firm. Pork dull. Lard and Hogs nominal. Liverpool, March 16—11.15 a m — Corn, 4 1/2 West unchanged.

ELEVATOR STORAGE RATES.

GRADES OF GRAIN.	1st 10 days of storage		1st 10 days of storage		1st 10 days of storage		1st 10 days of storage		1st 10 days of storage	
	per bush	per bush	per bush	per bush	per bush	per bush	per bush	per bush	per bush	per bush
No. 1, 2 and 3, from cars, 100, from trains	1 1/2	1 1/2	1 1/2	1 1/2	1 1/2	1 1/2	1 1/2	1 1/2	1 1/2	1 1/2
100, from cars and Yes 18	1 1/2	1 1/2	1 1/2	1 1/2	1 1/2	1 1/2	1 1/2	1 1/2	1 1/2	1 1/2
Rejected, from cars	1 1/2	1 1/2	1 1/2	1 1/2	1 1/2	1 1/2	1 1/2	1 1/2	1 1/2	1 1/2
Rejected, from trains	1 1/2	1 1/2	1 1/2	1 1/2	1 1/2	1 1/2	1 1/2	1 1/2	1 1/2	1 1/2
Common	1 1/2	1 1/2	1 1/2	1 1/2	1 1/2	1 1/2	1 1/2	1 1/2	1 1/2	1 1/2

Winter Storage—From Nov. 1 to April 1 on an average "Comdemned" grain, runs at the above rates until 40 days accumulated, when the charge ceases. On "Comdemned" grain the winter rate is the same as the summer rates.

MOVEMENT OF PRODUCE.

RECEIVED BY	Flour, bbls.	Wheat, bu.	Corn, bu.	Oats, bu.	Rye, bu.	Barley, bu.	Seeds, lbs.	C. Meats, lbs.	Beef, lbs.	Pork, lbs.	Lard, lbs.	Tallow, lbs.	Butter, lbs.	Wool, lbs.	Dres'd Hogs, Hogs.	Live Hogs, Hogs.	Cattle, No.	Hides, lbs.
City	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Country	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Total 1868	5120	6716	13440	2927	757	44	57950	93180	103	18775	7285	4400	27300	167	1660	56	57	777
Same time 1867	2753	3797	36413	4263	873	2149	51424	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Week end, March 14, 1868	27692	32487	141496	28088	2115	3085	570458	787800	...	1306	461880	34418	32264	66179	1692	16223	2826	44106
Same week 1867	26265	45787	97427	19105	7604	7231	554769	1202144	...	202	457765	60004	70166	187736	13964	13964	6753	155474
SHIP, for 18 hours	4618	2870	14290	2730	...	150	85073	132300	67	1209	...	2730	230	14772	...	2288	80	6500
Same time 1867	5221	19445	9755	653	47	1038	87072	348229	55	6191	15170	15194	590	22676	178	1706	703	14720
Week end, March 14, 1868	3757	1194	2397	1574	119	5160	61947	129275	632	2477	246590	31442	57663	156898	1885	14710	2387	52069
Same week 1867	23194	32667	25103	1076	11091	11576	594911	1513457	157	7142	654356	273536	37663	36120	2418	19241	3906	123124

DEPARTMENT SUB-AGENCIES.

Office Security Insurance Company's Western Branch.

Chicago,

Oct 17th

1868.

A. N. Parsons Esq. Agt.
Haqueton. Ind.

Recd

Your favor 15th inst recd & contents notd. ^{& survey}
Please send Mr Lantz's policy her. with full description of
building into which he wishes to remove his stock insured in
This Co. & we will make endorsement on it. & return.

Yours Truly

W. H. Cunningham Supt
Bdew

DEPARTMENT SUB-AGENCIES.

Office Security Insurance Company's Western Branch.

Chicago,

Oct 9th 1868.

A. W. Parsons Esq. Agt.
Hagerstown. Ind

Prof.
A. W. P.

In your September account you charge us commission \$92.²⁵
According to our books you have credit with but \$46.⁰⁰. commis-
sions as follows.

By 15% on Ordinary premiums.	480. ⁷⁵	-	72.10
20% " Drilling "	19. ⁷⁵	-	3.95
Total commissions due you			\$76.05

We think that upon examination you will find this to be
correct. There remains a balance of \$16.²⁵ to our credit
which please remit.

Yours Truly
W. W. Cunningham Esq.

Anderson 9th day of Dec. 1855
Received of James Parsons for in hundred dollars
to be paid to John Chasen for hogs
B. Reese

A. W. Parsons
- 311 Hogs 74.630 @ 7⁰⁰ \$5261 41
Less Freight 177 41
Nett \$5083 97

which was sent by Express

Cincinnati Ohio
25th Nov 1855

James Morrison & Co
A. W. Parsons

AGENT'S RECEIPT.

Indianapolis, Cincinnati & Lafayette Railroad.

Leagertown Station,

Received of

W. S. 1897
A. W. Parsons

the following articles in apparent good order, to be forwarded as consigned in the margin, at
Tariff rates, and subject to the Company's printed Rules and Regulations.

Marks, Consignment, &c.	ARTICLES.	WEIGHT.
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<i>A. W. Parsons</i> <i>Cons</i>	<i>3 Cars Hogs</i>	<i>42000</i> <i>0</i>
-------------------------------------	--------------------	--------------------------

Subject to Correct'n

Mo
729
Pettit
4185
CCF9C
7003

C. B. Rogers

Charges Advanced,

OFFICE OF

Lawrence, Nexsen, & Hall,

COMMISSION MERCHANTS,

Otis Block, 164 Madison Street, cor. La Salle.

Chicago, Nov 16 1868

A. M. Parsons Esq.

Wagons Town Ind.

Dear Sir. Yours for or. per Express.

Enclosing \$200 as margin on which purchased for you need of all satisfactory. please recollect the understanding is that the margin is always to be kept at 10% per bushel. Our wheat market is sick this fall. it closed on range at 50¢ & on the curb this eve is 49¢. We are having very fine weather. It influences the market as it is favorable for Spring crops. & also of the winter wheat. We hope to see New York improve. I start our market here. We have D/C. & remain

Yrs Truly

Lawrence Nexsen & Hall

Office of ROOTS & COE,

GENERAL COMMISSION MERCHANTS,

No. 250 PEARL STREET.

CINCINNATI, February 1st 1869

W. T. Carson, Esq.
Agent for Coal

Dear Sir

We commenced running
the 100 Bbls "New York (Country)". but found it not equal to
representations made by Chas. Kahn of the firm of H. Campbell & Co
in the presence of our Mr. Roots. We opened 3 Bbls and
found as follows.

1 Bbl. 18 pieces 199 pounds
1 " 20 " 200 " "
1 " 19 " 200 "

We were not willing to ruin such New York as your
contract and refused to do so

If you consider that you
have a right to demand of H. Campbell & Co 100 Bbls
New York of the quality represented. please consider
and have the matter settled by you around the 200 Bbls
New York for New York.

Very Respectfully
Roots & Coe
by J. E. Chesser

P.S. Quotations are as follows City New 31.⁰⁰ and best firm
Prime Sash firm at 20.⁰⁰ Best Mate firm 13. 15.⁰⁰ for
shoulder & sides. Tendency upward R. & C.

Hagerstown Aug 29/55
 Received of Benjamin Parsons
 the sum of Sixteen Dollars the amount
 of his subscription to the Presbyterian
 Church

No. 16 May 30th 1857
 Six months after date I promise to pay to
 the order of Samuel Martin
Sixteen Dollars
 Value received, without any relief whatever from Valuation or Appraisalment Law
 with interest from date.
 No. Dec 30th 1857 Benjamin Parsons

No. 337 Form 1-1. Dec 26 1868
Am Parson
 To The Indianapolis, Cincinnati & Lafayette Railroad Co. Tr.
 for Transportation of Merchandise from Hagerstown
Custodian Dollars. Cents. 25 00
 Weight _____ Charges.
 Received payment for the Company. Ed Custon Agent. 25 00

Mrs. Selzer

President of Temperance

League.

Enclosed you will find \$2.62 the amount that was collected at the Saturday night meeting, and put in my care by Wm. Stonebraker.

Wm. B. Smith

Monday 13th

April 17th

Mrs. Elias. Fetter
Miss Jessie Lewis

Edt. Stone

Saturday Afternoon

July 9. 1895.

South Market St.

From You to Six

For the benefit of the Soldiers
in the War of 1895.

31st Jan 1875
No 23-1875



Registered by Robert Howell

Mr. A. W. Parsons,

Hagerstown

Prince George's
County

Keensville Trenton Post office Randolph, C. & Irid
December 23rd 1874-

Mr. A. W. Parsons Sir

Enclosed you will please find Six Dollars and
fifty Cts which is the amount of my first instalment
made of the American Assurance Company. Please return my
note by return mail. I could not get Satisfaction order with reference
to Newchester ~~xxx~~ yours respectfully

Robert Howell

Republican TICKET.

For Secretary of State,
William W. Curry.

Auditor of State,
James A. Wildman.

Treasurer of State,
John B. Glover.

Superintendent of Public Instruction,
John M. Bloss.

Attorney General,
James C. Denny.

Judge of the Supreme Court,
Andrew L. Osborn.

*Representative in Congress—Fifth Congressional
District,*

Benjamin F. Claypool.

State Senator,
William Baxter.

Representatives,
Joseph C. Ratliff,
Branson L. Harris.

Prosecuting Attorney—Seventeenth Circuit,
Daniel W. Comstock.

Clerk—Wayne Circuit Court,
William H. Lynde.

Auditor of Wayne County,
Elihu M. Parker.

Treasurer of Wayne County,
Joseph G. Lemon.

Sheriff of Wayne County,
Joseph L. Smith.

Recorder of Wayne County,
Jesse E. Jones.

Assessor of Wayne County,
James H. Anderson.

County Commissioner—Western District,
Cornelius Thornburg.

Surveyor of Wayne County,
Robert C. Shute.

Coroner of Wayne County,
Sample C. Byer.

Township Trustee,
John Bowman.

Justices of the Peace,

Constables,

Supervisors.

Camp Walker Near Nashville Tennessee

Dear Father Mother Brother and Sisters

As you have asked me to write a description of my prison life several times since I have been discharged I will now endeavor to give you a short description of my two months captivity you are aware that I have written it out once and started it home but I understand that you never received it, I have not the time now to write so much as I would like to but I expect that I will write more than will be interesting to you nearly all that I shall write will be concerning myself it would be useless for me to try and give you a full description of prison life for there has been books written on the subject by some good writers what I shall write will be what I know to be the truth indeed if I should try to make it appear worse than it is or was, I think that I would hardly be able to make it appear any worse than it really was and I will be able to prove all that I will write in this by living witnesses the treatment that our brave boys have received at the hands of the Rebels will never be fully known to the people of the North for it is impossible to fully describe it with pen ink and paper therefore it will never be known as it really was only by those that have had the misfortune to fall into the hands of Rebels

The Battle of Peach Tree Creek was fought on July 20th 1864 on the afternoon of that day our Regt crossed Peach tree creek and was deployed as skirmishers and advanced about one mile without meeting with any opposition - we were ordered to halt and soon we heard the Rebels cheering in our front we supposed that they intended to charge us and as the column was not in supporting distance we fell back a short distance in a very short time the Rebels made their appearance on our right flank with impetus we again to fall back we fell back to a line of Rebel skirmish pits which we had captured some time before we received orders to hold our position at all hazards I supposed that the intention was for us to stay there and as the Rebels was advancing on us slowly quick I went to work loading and firing as rapidly as I could the order to fall back was given which I did not hear and the first thing that I was aware of the Regt was gone and the Rebels in a short distance of me as soon as I became aware of this I started after my Regiment intending to rejoin it I reached the creek and the Regt was already across I tried to cross with my traps on and come very near being drowned finding that I could not cross with my traps on I made my way back to the bank and commenced throwing my things off when the colors of the 28th Georgia Regt floated over me I surrendered

to one of the color guards then arose quite an animated discussion some were in favor of killing me on the spot and I supposed would had not an officer intervened after considerable parleying about who should take me to the rear and robbing me of my haversack and canteen a guard was placed over me and I was started to the rear after going a short distance with me he relieved me of my oil blanket and appropriated it to his own use then he turned me over to another guard and there I found Daniel Bates of Company E. of our Regt. This guard I found to be a perfect gentleman I think that he belonged to the 26th Gas an officer who said that he was a major on Gen. Hood's staff rode up to us and after abusing us a while ordered the guard to take everything the Yankees had with the guard refused to do the officer then ordered him to turn us over to another guard with was done the first thing that he done was to deprive me of my shelter tent some even wanted to take my coat off my back the guard took us to Atlanta and turned us over to Col. Hill of the 35th Tenn. who was present Marshall of the city from Col. Hill's Head Quarters we was marched through the city during the night when we found everything in commotion trams loaded with household and kitchen furniture with to me indicated preparations for a general attack the challe we was reported to an officer near the slip

boys took our names and sent us to the prison. Before entering the prison we was asked by the officer in charge if we had any thing of value. My reply was that I had nothing of value except a broken watch in my knapsack. The gates were then opened and I for the first time found myself an inmate of a prison we was surrounded by a strong guard. The prison contained about two hundred of our men both officers and enlisted men nothing of importance happened during the night I still had my wool blanket although it was wet I did not find much difficulty in sleeping for I was nearly dead and sleepy I awoke on the morning of the 21st and found myself surrounded by the walls of a Rebel prison during the day several shells from our guns fell in the city in this prison I found George Sims of our Regt. watch made some of us from the old 57th. late in the evening we chew one days rations consisting of a pint of unsifted corn meal a penny ^{small} salt and a small portion of meat that was unfit to eat with me threw away but if we could have had it one month from that time we could have eat it without much trouble a little after dark one of the Rebels shot at one of the prisoners for some trifling offence fortunately he was not hit about ten o'clock we received orders to get ready to march we started immediately and marched six miles to East Point we were placed in an old abandoned fort.

regular guard under us remained for several days while
we was at this place about 1800 men and officers were
brought in they were captured on the 9th and belonged
to Gen. McPherson's command the Rebel officers
informed us that they were unable to procure transportation
for us and ordered us to get ready to march to
Griffin some 20 miles distance we took our line of
march guarded by the 35th Tennessee 26th Georgia and
54th Virginia on the first day we passed through the
little town of Jonesboro we marched through the town
with Rebel colors flying and drums beating while
the prisoners "Dang Rally" and the "Flag Bays" men
women and children appeared to take great delight
in making sport of the Yankee prisoners little boys
were on the tops of the houses firing at the prisoners
with pop guns but no one was hurt or frightened for
all of us had hand bigger guns fire and guns
that need a different kind of ammunition we went
a few miles beyond the town and camped for the
night all the prisoners about 2000 in number and
the three Regiments of Guards were compelled to get
water at one well consequently a great many were
obliged to do without one of my comrades paid
two dollars for a quart of water which was all that
three of us had in twenty four hours the weather
during the entire march to Griffin was very hot
and the prisoners suffered very much for water for
many few of us had any canteens

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We arrived at Griffin on Sunday the town was filled with citizens to witness the arrival of the vile Yankees so they were pleased to call us about half of our number was put on the cars and the rest of us went into camp one mile from town where we remained until the next morning when we was put on the cars and started for Macon when within about 20 miles of Macon the cars ran off its track several of the guards of the 54th was hurt but none of the prisoners we went into camp and waited until another train come from Macon which was about ten o'clock at night we again took the cars and reached Macon the same night from Macon we went to Andersonville which is about 40 miles from Macon we arrived at Andersonville on the 29th of July we was compelled to stand in the hot sun with the Rebels around us as luck would have it I was missed by the man that was searching us after we was searched we took our line of march for the prison which was in sight we marched into the prison and the gates was shut after us we found ourselves in the middle of about thirty five thousand of our men men from all of the different drags of all shades and colors in this prison we found Negro Indians and men from ever country in the globe you can not imagine what my feeling was when I found what kind of a place I was in.

The Prison at Andersonville Ga.

The prison was situated about half a mile from the rail road and known as camp Sumter as near as I could guess there was about twenty acres inclosed by a strong stockade with logs. At one end four or five feet in the ground inside of the stockade fifteen or twenty feet was the dead line and any one that was so unfortunate as to pass beyond the dead line would be shot by the guards. There was a small stream of water running through the prison. The prisoners were expected to obtain all of the water at one end of the stream and it was expected that all the filth of the camp should be washed out at the other end we also had to do our washing in this stream the water became so filthy that the men digging with whatever implements they were possessed of or could steal or buy from the guards sunk wells some of them to the depth of fifty and sixty feet to obtain pure water and then they would cut these boats into strings in some instances to make cords to draw with using whatever they could lay their hands on for buckets, with so many men in so small a place the camp became too filthy to describe it there was a large swamp of several acres in the prison the swamp became unutterably dirty a perfect cessing and stinky mass of putrefaction the stench from which was horrible it became so pure

5.
that if a man had a scratch on any part of his body his hands feet or legs and the mud got on it it would mortify and gangrene would commence at the spot and spread and often arms and legs had to be amputated from this cause the death in the month of August was one hundred and thirty each day, some days more and some less we suffered much for the want of wood we would burn wood ever three days until wood be about enough to cook one decent meal when ever a man died the men that would carry him out to the dead house would be permitted to bring in a load of wood it was a very common thing to see men quarreling and sometimes fighting over a dead man about who should carry him out the man that got to help ^{carry} a dead man out was considered lucky because there was as great a demand for wood as any thing else the Rebels pretended to have a Hospital out side for the sick often at sick call in the morning sick men would be carried to the gate by their comrades and the Doctor would refuse to admit them into the Hospital and before they could be carried back in a wheel they stayed they would die and then the men that would be carrying them would turn about and carry them to the dead house and from the dead house they were thrown into wagons by negroes and headed to where they
- now day

While I was in Andersonville the Rebels found
a paid from general Stoneman and therefore
they went to work on the fortifications around
the prison they also put two new lines or
stockades around the prison which made it
impossible to get out without slipping out under
the stockades some few made there escape in
that way but as a general thing the Rebels
would find it out before the tunnel was
completed and if they would be so fortunate
as to get out they would nearly always be
caught by the Rebel hounds for the prison
was guarded with Rebel hounds as well as
by Rebel soldiers the Rebels made a great
fun about us setting up the Negro to fight
I examined them but catching Union prisoners
with Rebel hounds was all right in their
estimation in the month of September
there was considerable talk about an exchange
the Rebels commenced to send our men of and
told them that they was going to be exchanged
if I am not mistaken they commenced to
send the prisoners off from Andersonville on
the 7th day of September, I do not know
what the day about what we had to eat
you can guess that it was not much and
what little we did get was not fit to
eat I know that you would not feed to
the dogs what we had to eat I often wish
that I could have what you would throw out
to the dogs our rations consisted of corn
bread or meal some times a little pork
about 2 or three ounces about the same
kind of blue leaf Mener both are

The same day some times a little rice and
 Negro peas and some molasses and not
 enough salt to half salt what little we
 did get some times our rations was cooked
 I mean half cooked and some times they was
 issued to us uncooked and if it should
 happen to rain we would not get any
 rations for the Quartermaster would rather
 let us go hungry than to get wet
 so luck would have it C. H. Sims of our Regt
 got into the prison with a tent I paid
 one dollar and a half for enough stakes to
 put it up I also bought a half canteen for
 a frying pan or stack of dishes consisted of
 one quart canteen one tin cup one knife two
 spoons and one half canteen with me used
 for a frying pan this was all that three of
 us had you can guess that we did not
 have much trouble washing dishes on the
 2nd day of August several of the boys from
 Hagerstown belonging to the 5th Cav. was brought
 in the following named boys from our train
 D. and T. H. Moore, John Ditty, Robert Davis,
 Thomas Cannon, W. Boniff, James Rust, Jess
 Currier, Edmunds, H. Mikler, John G. Lw.,
 Daniel Higgins, Walter Thompson, Frank Ditty
 and several others from the vicinity of town.
 Thomas Cannon died on the 21st day of September
 inflammation of the brain was the cause of his
 death, Jacob Mikler died about that time
 I did not learn the cause of his death
 on the 17th of Sept about ten o'clock at night
 I left the prison for St. Anselmsmill and
 was again treated good and fresh etc.

when I left the prison I think that all of
 the Hager town boys had been sent off west.
 Henry Walker and John Dykes Walker came
 through with me we was put in the cars and
 sent to Macon and from Macon we was sent
 to a station between Griffin and Jonesboro where
 we got off the cars and marched to Rough and
 Ready a small town we passed through the
 town of Jonesboro where the little boys took
 as much delight in shooting at us with pop
 guns when we passed through before from the
 appearance of the town they had heard some
 Yankee gun also by the people of Little
 Beach Jonesboro they did not think that
 in a short time that they would have
 to run and leave their homes to fall
 into the hands of the Yankee invaders
 they took great delight in making sport
 of Yankee prisoners but they had to pay
 dearly for the sport that they made of us
 a short time before a 1st Regt and Ready we
 was engaged and entered our own lines once
 more we was put in the cars and reached
 Atlanta about ten o'clock on the night of
 the 13th of September that was the happy
 day of my life we was again with our own
 people and where we could get plenty to eat
 I joined my Company on the 25th of Sept.

I have written this in a hurry so you must
excuse all mistakes if I had the time I could
write a little Book on my time in the captivity
but I suspect that I have already written more than
will be interesting to you if you keep this until
I come home I may write it out again I would
be ashamed for any one to see this but you
can see your own pleasure about letting any one
see it but I would a little rather that you would
not show it because it has been so badly
compounded and so poorly written that I am ashamed
of it my self and I would not send it now if
I had not promised to send it so often
I will close by describing myself your
affectionate Son

George H. Parsons

- No. 1 Dead line
- No. 2 First Stockade
- No. 3 Second Stockade
- No. 4 Third Stockade
- No. 5 Sentinal Boxes in the woods
- No. 6 Basin of water running through the camp
- No. 7 the Swamp
- No. 8 the Gates
- No. 9 My tent
- No. 10 Rebel lines of Rife's pits
- No. 11 Cook house
- No. 12 Rail Road
- No. 13 Hospital
- No. 14 Dead horse
- No. 15 Porta

1
a popular delusion Exposed

all the infinite and eternal
blessings of Gods Salvation
are ours through faith - we
have no title to them on
the ground of what we have
done: but it is Gods delight
to give them on the ground of
what Christ has done: they
are the gift of His Grace.
~~through~~ through faith on
our part. How unimportant
important then, that our
faith should be real and
genuine - the true faith of
the gospel & how many fancy
they believe, when in reality
they do not, alas! they deceive
themselves if people generally
believed the plainest
deceit of Gods word, if
they believed the judgment

of God pronounced upon
 Sin, "the soul that sinneth
 it shall die: the wages of
 sin is death: could they
 go on as they do. from day
 to day and year to year,
 without ever having an
 hour's trouble or anxiety
 about their sins; you know
 it would be imposibel were
 you to see a criminal under
 sentence of death - a sentence
 which must be executed
 without a moment's waring
 interested about a thousand
 trifles but perfectly uncon-
 cerned about his impend-
 ing doom could you credit
 the confederate that he
 believed in the awfulness of
 his situation; you could
 not and is this not a prejudice

of the world around us pursing its easy, careless, utterly regardless, of the dreadful judicial sentence if we die in your sins wither, i-go, we can not come— as to the glad tidings of the gospel similar delusions prevail— when the truth is set forth, how often do persons reply i believe every word you sayd i have always believed it while in relation they are unbelievers if you owed a large sum of and were apprehensive of being arrested for it, and tidings came that another, means of grace had paid it for you would not all your apprehensions be instantly alaid? if on the contrary you had fears on account of the debt would

4. it would it prove that
you were: as regards the
payment of the debt an
undeliverer - so is it with
the sinner of the gospel
nothing is more common
than the fashionable, opinion
of being because to be regarded
as an undeliverer is discredit-
able. but let the sifting
question be put: do you
then enjoy peace with
God in the assurance that
your sins are blotted out
and you are wholly free from
conscience: the truthful voice
of conscience gives the lie
to the language of the lips. they
who do not believe that their
debt is paid do not believe
that Christ has paid it.
They who do not believe
that their sins are gone, do
not believe that Christ has
brought them away - such
persons may indeed believe
in the death of Christ -
but they do not in the value
of that death. they do not believe

5

in the efficacy of his atoning blood as regards the grate fundamental truth of the gospel they are still unbelievers. Theirs is not the simple, peace-giving faith of the gospel - that faith which can say with assurance & which does say in a transport of worshiping love: "The Lord hath laid on him (the iniquity of us all) (isa. 53) his own self bar over sins in his own body on the tree; (1, Peter, 2. 24) and bar them away forever" - Christ, the only Saviour! God will have none to have a hand in the justification and salvation of a sinner but Christ only.

and. to speak as the thing
is Christ Jesus will either
be a whole savior, ^{or} ~~no~~ no savior:
he will either save you, a.
done or not save you at all.
for among men there is giving
no other name under heaven
wherby we must be saved.
~~and~~ says the apostle Peter: &
Jesus Christ himself says I
am the way the truth and the
life and no man cometh to
the father but by me: &
that ~~is~~ ^{is} what is Luther:
truly says besides, this way
Christ thear is no way but
wandering, no verity but
Eternal death"

HECKMAN

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